

## ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a method, system, and computer program product which enables changing user credentials that are used to access legacy host applications and/or systems which provide legacy host data during a secure host access session which is authenticated using a digital certificate and is protected by a host-based security system, such as RACF (Resource Access Control Facility, a product offered by the IBM Corporation), where these changed credentials are used to authenticate a user after previously-provided credentials have been used for authentication earlier in the same session. The changed credentials may belong to the same user, where that user happens to have a different user ID and/or password for different legacy host applications and wishes to change from accessing one legacy host application to accessing another. Or, the changed credentials may be used to enable a different user to interact with the same legacy host application used by the previously-authenticated user. The disclosed technique may also be used advantageously to authenticate a user for accessing an application, when the user's credentials are not changing.